equity.

(ii) Improvement in tax-payer services so as to reduce complianca cost, impart transparency and facilitate voluntary compliance.

(iii) Re-designing procedures for strengthening enforcement so as to improve compliance of direct tax laws.

(iv) Any other matter related to the above points.

(c) The Task Force has presented a consultation paper on 2nd November, 2002 which has been made public for wider discussion and comments. The Government is examining them and shall formulate views only after full examination of the recommendations.

Notice to Loan Defaulters

2736. SHRIMATI N.R DURGA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Bank of Hyderabad has issued notices to loan defaulters to recover loans during the last three months;

(b) if so, the number of notices issued during this period; and

(c) the total amount of loans to be recovered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Bank has issued 150 notices to the defaulting borrowers during this period for an amount of Rs. 69.33 crore.

Misuse of Export Promotion Schemes of Companies

2737. SHRIMATI N.R DURGA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies in Delhi who cheated Government during the last two years by misusing export promotion schemes such as duty drawback, duty free replenishment certificate scheme and duty exemption pass book scheme;

(b) the total amount involved in these cheating cases; and

(c) the number of persons arrested and the number of cases registered against them and the number of convictions made in these cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) to (c) 302 companies of Delhi were found misusing different export promotion schemes such as Duty drawback, duty free replenishment certificate scheme and duty entitlement pass book scheme. The amount involved in these cases is Rs. 186 crores. 16 cases were registered against these companies and 33 persons arrested. No convictions have been made yet.

Notice to M/s. Seagram Ltd.

2738. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have issued notices to M/s. Seagram for wrong declaration of quantity, value and classification of imports amounting to duty violation of more than Rs. 40 crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government would take stern action against the promoters and the company and recover the duty and if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two Show Cause Notices demanding total duty to the tune of Rs. 50.05 crores were issued to M/s. Seagram Manufacturing Limited, Gurgaon, Haryana for alleged misdeclaration of quantity, value and classification of imports goods, out of which demand of Rs. 41.70 crores has been confirmed. Another Show Cause Notice issued for penal action against the Company and its officials has also been adjudicated and penalty imposed.

(c) A criminal complaint against the Company and its officials has been filed and is proceeding before the court of ACMM, Patiala House